UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

v.

22-CR-020 (PGG)

ALEXANDER GULKAROV, et al. Defendant.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

Pursuant to Rule 1.16 of the New York Rules of Professional Conduct, and Local Civil Rule 1.4 as applied through Local Criminal Rule 1.1, Attorney Catherine M. Deist hereby files this motion to withdraw as counsel for Defendant Robert Wisnicki in this action and, in support thereof, states as follows:

- 1. On or about January 14, 2022, Defendant Wisnicki retained Mukasey Frenchman LLP to represent him in the above styled case. Subsequently, Marc Mukasey, Kenneth Caruso, and Catherine Deist entered appearances with this honorable Court as Defendant Wisnicki's Counsel of Record.
- 2. As of January 1, 2023, Attorney Deist is employed by another law firm, located in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
- 3. Defendant Wisnicki is aware of Attorney Deist's change in employment, and agrees that Attorney Deist should be discharged from representing him in this matter.
- 4. Withdrawal is, therefore, mandatory under New York Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(3), which provides that "a lawyer shall withdraw from the representation of a client when . . . the lawyer is discharged[.]"

- 5. Attorney Deist's withdrawal will not adversely affect Defendant Wisnicki, as he is still represented by Attorney Mukasey and Attorney Caruso.
 - 6. Attorney Deist does not assert any retaining lien upon Defendant Wisnicki's file.
- 7. For all of the foregoing reasons, Attorney Deist respectfully requests that this Court grant her motion to withdraw.

Dated: Virginia Beach, Virginia February 14, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

CATHERINE M. DEIST

/s/ Catherine M. Deist Catherine M. Deist Ernest Law Group, PLC 505 S. Independence Blvd., Ste. 103 Virginia Beach, VA 23452 cdeist@ernestlawgroup.net (757) 289-2499

MEMO ENDORSED

The Application is granted.

SO ORDERED:

Paul G. Gardephe, U.S.D.J.

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Dated: February 21, 2023